



**University of
Sunderland**

Panneels, Inge (2015) British Glass Biennale 2015, exhibition. [Show/Exhibition]

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Glass Biennale 2015 artists announced

Finalists for the British Glass Biennale, part of the International Festival of Glass have just been announced.

76 artists have been selected for this prestigious award from more than 200 applications. 13 of the artists are students and there are 122 pieces set to be exhibited at the British Glass Biennale which runs from 28 May – 28 June in Stourbridge, West Midlands.

All selected artists have been living and working for the last two years in the UK or Northern Ireland but many originate from across the globe, including Costa Rica, South Korea, Israel, Sweden, Germany and Japan as well as glass artists living and working in the historic Stourbridge Glass Quarter.

The pieces embrace a vast range of glassmaking techniques including blown, kiln formed, slumped and engraved glass with pure clean crystal through to opaque vessels and pieces featuring surface painting and glass inclusions. Submissions range from the miniature to large scale installations.

The 76 talented artists made it through the rigorous selection process which was overseen by the Biennale panel made up of curator Janice Blackburn, writer Graham Fisher, glass collector Mark Holford, glass artist David Reekie and Ikon gallery director Jonathan Watkins.

As well as garnering a coveted slot at the acclaimed Biennale at this year's International Festival of Glass, the artists will also be vying for one of several awards. These include The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London award: Glass Sellers' Art & Craft Award; Glass Sellers' Art & Craft Award, Runner Up; Glass Sellers' Art & Craft Student Award; Glass Sellers' Art & Craft Student Award, Runner Up; Art in Action Award for Contemporary Glass; craft&design magazine award; craft&design magazine highly commended award and a new award for 2015, the London Glassblowing Emerging Talent Award. The headline award is the British Glass Biennale Prize. This acclaimed award is selected by the jury and is recognised as one of the most prestigious awards in the world of glass. All the award winners will be announced at the Biennale private view on 27 May 2015, with the exception of the craft&design magazine awards which will be announced when the Biennale exhibition closes on 28 June.

British Glass Biennale
Ruskin Glass Centre, Stourbridge
West Midlands, DY8 4HF

info@biennale.org.uk
www.biennale.org.uk

Elisabeth Johnson, International Festival of Glass Project Director said:

"The quality of submissions was remarkable and the jury had a really tough time creating the shortlist. We were impressed with the variety of styles and range of techniques on offer and were particularly pleased to see so many student submissions, showing that the appetite for studio glass continues to grow. I can't wait to see the final exhibition and am on tenterhooks for the awards evening on 27 May."

The established artists taking part in this year's Biennale are Karen Akester, Margaret Alston, Vic Bamforth, Scott Benefield, Juli Bolaños-Durman, Karen Browning, Edmond Byrne, Keeryong Choi, Katharine Coleman, Nicholas Collins, Erin E Dickson, Shirley Eccles, Rachel M Elliott, Fiaz Elson, Louis Thompson & Hanne Enemark, Sally Fawkes and Richard Jackson, Carrie Fertig, Corrina Field, Katya Izabel Filmus, Livvy Fink, Alec Galloway, Zoe Garner, Stephen and Kate Gilles Jones, Ashraf Hanna, Gillian Hobson, Ana Rosa Hopkins, Ingrid Hunter, Elin Isaksson, Max Jacquard, Shelley James, Angela Jarman, Alison Kinnaird, Emma Mackintosh, Julia Malle, Geoffrey Mann, James Maskrey, Gayle Matthias, Helen Maurer, Rosa Nguyen, Linda Norris, Amanda Notarianni, Jochem Ott, Inge Panneels, Jacque Pavlosky, Kevin Petrie, Bruno Romanelli, Ruth Shelley, Lisa Sheppy, Cathryn Shilling Amanda Simmons, Ayse Simsek & Heike Brachlow, Nancy Sutcliffe, Ayako Tani, Deborah Timperley, Eliot Walker, Cara Louise Walker, Karin Walland, Surinder Warboys and Emma Woffenden.

The remaining 13 student artists, who are equally eligible for the main prizes are, Jenny Ayrton, Emma Baker, Eddie Belvedere, Dan Bowran, Phoebe Gowen, Haley Haddow, Sienna Holihan, Deborah Martin, Faith Mercer, Harry Morgan, Alicja Patanowska, Tao Shen and Julia Williams.



Ends

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Notes to editors

The **British Glass Biennale** is delighted to be working once again in association with the **Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London**. The British Glass Biennale will once again be working in association with the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London, who will select the winners of their Art & Craft Award and Student Award from the exhibiting artists within the British Glass Biennale.

Exhibition dates: 28 May to 28 June 2015.

The **British Glass Biennale** will be held in the Glasshouse Arts Centre and Ruskin Glass Centre, The Glasshouse, Wollaston Road, Amblecote, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 4HE. For more information, visit www.biennale.org.uk

The **British Glass Biennale** is part of the **International Festival of Glass**, an exciting programme of events and exhibitions for glass enthusiasts and the public alike, which attracts visitors from around the world to venues across the Stourbridge Glass Quarter. The Festival centres round its four day public Glass Festival, from 28 – 31 May. Although the British Glass Biennale exhibition is free there is an entry charge to the Ruskin Glass Centre over the Glass Festival weekend. For more information, visit www.ifg.org.uk

The Biennale jury is made up of:

- Graham Fisher MBE – Director of the British Glass Foundation
- Janice Blackburn – Curator of Contemporary Design for Sotheby's and 10 Downing Street
- Mark Holford – Glass Collector
- Jonathan Watkins – Director of the Ikon Gallery
- David Reekie – Glass Artist